



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

This document is written in simple and easy style. At the same time it is comprehensive and strong, and shows a larger grasp of affairs than the new president had been credited with. All leading points of national policy are touched, and little fault can justly be found with their general treatment. Relations with foreign countries are presented at length and with amplitude of detail. The most noticeable thing under this head is what is said on the Panama canal question. While the president does not affirm the so-called Monroe doctrine in a way that can give offence to other governments, what he says nevertheless distinctly conveys the idea that the United States has a paramount interest in securing the neutrality of the canal under its own protection. There is no doubt that the United States will insist on this position, and insist on it the more earnestly if there shall appear to be an actual prospect of construction of the canal.

From foreign relations the president passes to discussion of financial and other domestic affairs. Here he is sound and clear. In dealing with the silver question he recommends that the silver certificates be called in and that the act requiring their issue be repealed. For good reasons disconnection of the coinage of silver dollars is recommended. It is suggested also that all internal revenue rates be abolished except the taxes on liquors and tobacco and the special tax on manufacturers of and dealers in such articles. The recommendation is a good one. So long as taxes are necessary the government cannot do better than to tax liquors and tobacco. If it would be a good thing to tax them out of existence, except for mechanical and medical uses, if such a thing were possible; but as it is not possible, the next best thing is to make both as dear to the consumer as practicable. No more sensible thing was ever done by congress than that of imposing heavy taxes on these articles. They should be dear; the dealer the better; for to prevent their consumption in any degree whatever is to add to the general welfare.

The president thinks the army ought to be recruited till its strength reaches 80,000, and then maintained at that figure. The old story about the miserable condition of the navy is again repeated with pathetic force, and again urged to take means to restore, or re-create it. If congress will not take such action as will give the effective force of our navy a decided and contemptible, it would be as well to let our old flag be carried in our flag ships down, and the contractor frankly made known who had hidden away the company and ownership of naval power. Even that humiliation would be preferable to the ludicrous figures we are presenting now.

As to this consideration of the condition of our merchant marine, the president asks congress to make an inquiry why it is that our country, rich in resources and products, has lost the ocean carrying trade and is actually dependent on foreign bottoms for a proportion of its own products. The president knows well enough why it is so, but fails to assign any reason for it, not wishing to get into a controversy with the powerful interests concerned, and afraid of provoking a national war.

He has, however, chosen a system apparently directed to make the price of iron high and to keep it so. Of course we cannot compete with those who have cheap iron and labor, and who have too much means to burden the business of shipbuilding with oppressive conditions under the name of "protection." Our president could surely under the so-called protective system, if he had the right, pass a law which would not permit any foreign ship to enter our ports without paying a heavy duty. This would be a good thing to do, but it would not be for protection of society, strangle his watch quickly, and lay the job down.

Who is the president was talking of Hawaii in his message just sent to congress he ought to have recommended, that the monopoly treaty with those islands be abrogated. But perhaps his attention has not yet been called to this so-called "reciprocity" business.

The legislature of Washington territory has adjourned. It has had a long, tedious, expensive and not remarkably fruitful session. The world is governed too much.

We have in the message a valuable discussion on civil service reform. The evils of our civil service system, a system based on favoritism, spoils, embezzlement on all sides, and corruption, has never been conspicuous and a civil service reformation cannot now, as it never had great responsibility, ignore the demands made by the president to the Republican party, which is rightly urged upon the heads of our people as an example of what must be done in putting the civil service on a sound basis.

It is evident that the president has gained success with the country by a message which is to the whole a dignified and judicious communication. It is entirely non-partisan, and therefore cannot be a subject of criticism among the political opponents of the administration.

## OREGON RAILROADS.

The anti-slavery League of Marion county, in their address heretofore published, say: "Three years ago they trifled on the Columbia and Willamette rivers a line of transportation with facilities sufficient to do the business of those routes. This property was highly estimated at a value of \$2,000,000, and was sold to the O. R. & N. Company for \$2,000,000." These are extraordinary statements to put forth frankly as statements of fact. So far was the line of transportation on the Columbia and Willamette rivers (particular on the former) from having "facilities to do the business of the country," that business and navigation were crippled, and are still crippled, by the want of necessary facilities.

The country and far down the capacity of the O. R. & N. Company's line of transportation to serve it, and increase of facilities is impossible to say in this view as a chance for the rapidly increasing commerce of a section which area over 100,000 square miles. Hope railway transportation became a necessity. And the incomplete line along the Columbia river became then doubled the capacity for transport, and still there is a steady cry from all parts of the upper country for more facilities.

On the one hand, the statement is published with approval that the old line of the O. R. & N. Company, with a property highly valued at \$3,000,000, had "facilities sufficient to do the business," and on the other the complaint of numerous shippers and newspapers that the facilities are still inadequate, though many millions of dollars have been expended during the last three years in increasing them. There is something intentionally disingenuous or naturally stupid here. Again, when it is said that for a property highly valued at \$3,000,000 the sum of \$3,000,000 was paid, we are asked to accept the statement that capitalism would throw away \$3,000,000 by deliberately paying for a property that sum in excess of what it was worth. Is it not apparent that capital is a quality wanted in all these statements? A strong case never can be made unless fairness be studied and observed. It is apparent, of course, that the object in asserting that a property worth only \$3,000,000 afforded facilities sufficient for the business of the country is to make it appear that increase of the capital and property of the company was unnecessary, and that its effect will not be to accommodate the country—but to oppress it. And yet it appears that the company has put in more than 200 mi. of road, doing away entirely with slow, difficult and expensive transportation above the Dalles, and still its facilities for transport are not sufficient, and the whole country is crying out for more. It will require an expenditure of \$10,000,000 more by the O. R. & N. Company to meet existing demands for transportation to the country to

## NEW TO-DAY.

## NEW MARKET THEATER.

F. W. STECHER, Lessee and Manager  
TWO NIGHTS AND ONE MATINEE.—  
Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. and 1 P.M.  
PLAQUETTE'S COMIC OPERA  
In Four Acts.

## THE CHIMES OF NORMANBY!

With the fall wing unspunned east—  
SERPENTINE GROT first night, Dec. 10.

GRISHNA.—MISS ANNIE GUY.—  
Sister.—Norway.—Miss MARY.—  
Sister.—Normandy.—Miss MARY.—  
HENRY.—The Marquis, his first appearance of C. A. VAY.

J. VAN HORN.—GARSPARD the Moor first appearance of J. VAN HORN.

The Palace.—Miss MARY.—Mr. J. F. Johnson

Princess Waller, Christopher, etc.

By the Full Chorus of the  
Hindoo and Haydn Society,  
Numbering Fifty Voices, with  
GRAND ORCHESTRA.

W. H. KIRKMAN, Conductor  
New Members: Elegant Properties,  
Imported Arms and Costumes.

Admission: Premiums and Drawings, \$1.00; admission reserved, 50¢. The Box Office will be open in the afternoon and after Whist, Dec. 10, 1 P.M., at the Union Station Hotel, Portland.

At 7 P.M. the first performance.

SOL'S RESTAURANT,

67 FIRST ST.,

Between Oak and Pine.

BREAKFAST AND DINNER,

INCLUDING

Pint Bottle Good Cal. Table Claret,

FIFTY CENTS.

Meal Tickets Sold

(Not including Wine)

Three for \$1.

This is the most conven'ently located restaurant for the accommodation of business men and other classes.

LUNCHES AT POPULAR PRICES.

The Young Ladies of the Congregational Church will give

A SOCIAL IN THE VESTRY,

NEXT MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 11th,

For the Benefit of the Sunday School.

ADMISSION FREE. A Cardinal Welcome is extended to all.

MASQUE LADE SUITS FOR RENT AT THE

Plotter Masque Depot,

In addition to our large stock of Masque robe Costumes, we have the entire stock of Plotter's Masque Costumes, including all the latest fashions. We are adding new pieces every day. Address, Plotter's Masque, 201 First and Main Sts.

LECTURE!

REV. J. A. GRAY will deliver a lecture of the Reformed Church, Friday Evening, Dec. 10th, at 8 o'clock, for the benefit of the Ladies' Aid Society.

WANTED—YOUNG MAN TO WAIT ON TABLES, APT. 10, METROPOLITAN HOTEL.

WANTED—SITUATION AS CLERK OR ACCOUNTANT, 241½ 1st, this office, Reference, one of my clients.

WANTED—WEEK OF GRINDING FOR THIS YEAR.

JOHN L. GEORGE, The Center, 50 First St., Portland.

WANTED—BY COMPETENT MAN, SITUATION AS CLERK OR ACCOUNTANT, \$100 per month, to manage my office, and to live in my house.

WANTED—OUR GIRL, 16, ON CITY PROPERTY, \$100 per month, to live in my house, and to work at a level per cent. per annum. Inquire at this office, or at my home, 101½ 1st.

WANTED—INTERVIEW BY A MANAGED MAN, IN A stock office, or under him, to manage his office, very well.

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WANTED—\$1000 IN MONEY, THE OWNERSHIP OF WHICH I AM GOING TO PURCHASE, AND THE USE OF WHICH I AM GOING TO MAKE MY PROPERTY, AND HUSBANDS, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Bunn, D. & Dickey's Building, 101½ 1st.

WANTED—YOUNG MAN, WITH AN APPRENTICE, TO WORK IN A STOCK OFFICE, IN THE OFFICE OF A. L. NICHOLS, 110½ 1st.

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**TON AND COMMISSION**  
**GILMAN & CO.**  
First St., bet. Pine and Ash.  
SALES OF REAL ESTATE, FINE  
BALE DAYS—Tuesday and Vi-  
e Co.—Auctioneers  
**CONTINUOUS SALE**  
OF  
ETC., ETC., ETC.  
ROOM, NO. 12 FIRST ST.  
FRIDAY, DEC. 9th,  
AT 10 O'CLOCK A.M.  
CONTINUATION OF  
**CLEAR CEASE**  
GILMAN & CO. Auctioneers  
**INSTRUCTORS' SALE**  
OF  
**OLD FURNITURE**  
admitted by Nevers, Frank, Dickson,  
and others, to the estate of Mr.  
Main St., bet. Sixth and Second.  
**SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 1881,**  
At 10 o'clock A.M.  
Furniture & Carpet Goods  
**AMERICAN FURNITURE**  
Mrs. Brandt's Corner, 1st floor, 5 pieces,  
each \$100.00, and a set of four chairs, \$100.  
Wool & Whimseys, Urchins and Cur-  
tains, Mirrors, Lampshades  
**ALSO**  
Quilts, Carpet Boxes, Kitchen Furniture  
in residence.  
**GILMAN & CO. Auctioneers**

**FRIEDMAN,**  
or & Commission Merchants  
AT THE  
**L.D. AUCTION HOUSE,**  
cover First and Pine Streets,  
within all kinds of General Mer-  
chandise, Real Estate, Office, Car-  
riages, Stocks of Merchandise,  
Day and Evening, advertising  
etc.

**NEUTRE CARPETS, ETC.**

**THE OREGON**

Just Received, Di-  
from the Factories,  
Largest Stock of

**COATS**

brought to this mar-  
ket consisting of Vene-  
grain, Extra Super-  
ior Ply, Tapestry, Body  
seals, Moquette and  
bomber, which they  
are very low prices.

Company also carry  
extensive stock of

**EDWARD**

ear own make, which  
a-table to guarantee  
superior in finish  
workmanship to any  
brought from California  
or Eastern States.

cor. First and Yam-  
eet streets.

**DON'T BE**

UNTIL YOU SEE

**EDWARDS'**

New and Elegant Stock of  
**URNITURE,**  
**CARPETS,**  
**O'STORY GOODS.**

9 SECOND STREET.

**OFF BY 3 P.M.**  
UNTIL AFTER  
THE HOLIDAYS,

for Boys & Children

**100% CLOTHING**

AT THE  
**CLTHING HOUSE**

OF  
**EL & WALDMAN,**

147 FIRST ST.

**ECK & SON,**

and Co., Mfg. and Trade  
Household Goods, etc., at  
147 First Street, do so  
as to give you every op-  
portunity to buy up to

your opportunity.

**EDWARD'S**

beautiful stock of  
Fancy Goods, purchased  
from the best houses in  
the city, and in your order  
will be shipped to you  
at the earliest opportunity.

**EDWARD'S**

great clearance sale

is called to the fact that  
you can buy up to  
the lowest price, and  
you will receive the  
best service.

**EDWARD'S**

for music as well as  
fancy goods, pianos and  
other articles, we have  
the best selection in  
the city.

**EDWARD'S**

for musical instruments

on hand.

**EDWARD'S**

for musical instruments

